

# PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

VOL. XXVIII, No. 44

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1948

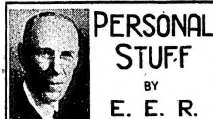
\$2.00 per year; 3 years \$5.00

## Nylon Cartel Soaks People

THINKS JOHN L's O.K.



Irwin Rogers, 37, of Sunshine, Kentucky, paralyzed from the waist down as a result of a mine accident, is carried from a train at Oakland, California. He is one of the first 12 United States miners who will undergo special treatment under the United Mine Workers welfare program.



**PERSONAL STUFF**  
BY  
**E. E. R.**

I hope you won't get tired of this. You see, it will cost about five thousand dollars to put one decent piece of election literature into the homes of Alberta people during the election campaign. In 1944 we spent about \$12,000 on our provincial campaign. Everything is up in price this year. We can't put up any kind of a campaign under \$15,000. Not if we are going to tell our story to the electors. Radio alone will run into a couple of thousand dollars. Newspaper advertising is costly. We should have advertisements in every rural paper, at least twice in the campaign, not to mention the dailies and the farm papers which circulate in the province. There will be the expense of speakers, campaign headquarters, and all the dozen and one other items which dig into the election budget. They'll have to spend very carefully in the provincial office to get by on \$15,000. And we have no \$15,000. That's the rub. By this time next week, or the week after that, we'll be in the campaign, with thirty days to go before the voting takes place. If we have to raise money for our campaign in the next thirty days, and not spend it until we get it—well, we won't be able to do the things I have enumerated above. We won't have time.

Where does that leave us? It leaves us with an election campaign in sight and no adequate funds with which to conduct it. That's the plain, blunt fact of the matter. You know, I don't like to have to write like this. There are  
(Continued on page 8)

## C.C.F. Gains Put Ottawa In a Panic

BY DORIS FRENCH

OTTAWA, (CPA)—Signs of panic are growing on Parliament Hill these days. Since the latest string of C.C.F. wins there is indication of a greater shift in political alignment than for years past. The big Liberal party is creaking at the seams.

Latest evidence was a march by six leading Ontario Liberals headed by L. O. Breithaupt (Waterloo) into the sanctum of the P.M., to announce, with the boldness of desperation, that only a complete about-face in government policy on the cost of living issue could halt the loss of votes in the big central province.

The six rebels met with newspapermen in the corridor afterwards, and the story was out.

**C.C.F. Program?**

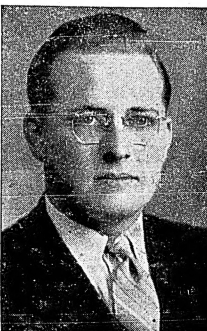
"We made our demands clear, insisting that the Government get out of the kitchen of Canadian homes," said Mr. Breithaupt. He explained that the group told King that the Liberal party could only be saved by government action to reduce prices by such bold measures as removing the 25% excise tax on household goods, and putting subsidies back on basic foodstuffs.

Mr. Breithaupt insisted that Mr. King had received them with "great courtesy," and had called their proposals "very wise." He had then hurried on to a cabinet meeting.

But those who know King's methods best say that six On-

(Continued on Page 8)

QUESTIONS C.I.L. HEAD



ROSS THATCHER,

C.C.F. member of parliament for Moose Jaw, did a pretty thorough job of cross-examining when H. G. Smith, first vice-president of Canadian Industries Limited, appeared before the Commons Prices Committee.

## RADIO RECEIPTS SHOW INTEREST

Evidence of renewed interest in the C.C.F. campaign is shown in the contributions to the Radio Fund in the past week. For the third week in succession amounts received have been well above the hundred dollar mark. This week it is \$180.37.

There is need for continuous support for the Fund if the radio program is to be maintained and expanded. Keep up the good work!

Fred Hill, \$1.00; Agar Bros., \$2.00; Albert Partlow, \$1.00;  
(Continued on Page 8)

## Denmark Proposes Joint Scandinavian "Parliament"

COPENHAGEN, (CPA)—Proposals for a joint Scandinavian "Parliament" have been submitted to the Governments of Norway and Sweden by the Danish Government. It is proposed that members of the three parliaments should meet periodically to discuss common questions, such as foreign policy and defense.

The idea is an extension of existing arrangements under which Ministers from the three countries meet from time to time for informal conferences. At the latest of these, held here at the beginning of June, important discussions took place on military policy.

Since the fall of Czechoslovakia, there has been widespread public debate in all three countries on the question of a reorientation of Foreign policy. The possibility of a Scandinavian customs union has also been widely canvassed.

**Opinions Differ**

Statements by responsible Ministers have revealed a considerable difference of views. Official

policy and general opinion in Sweden still leans heavily toward neutrality, though small groups have been agitating for adhesion to the West.

Norway has clearly abandoned neutrality and is ready to seek assistance in the event of attack through some form of alliance with Britain. Denmark, occupying a middle position, would like a common Scandinavian defence policy and is understood to be attempting to find a compromise between the more extreme views of the two other countries.

Sweden escaped occupation by Germany, has built up her defenses and thinks that isolated neutrality, well armed, will protect her another time. The Swedish Government, hoping to prevent Norway from seceding from Scandinavia, is prepared to enter into an armed alliance with Norway, provided that its neutral implications are made clear beforehand. "There must be no joining a Western Union by the backdoor"

(Continued on page 8)

## Shortage Is Excuse For High Prices

OTTAWA, (CPA)—"The most shocking example so far of a company taking advantage of shortages," was the way Ross Thatcher, (C.C.F., Moose Jaw) described the evidence given before the Commons Price Committee on June 15 by Mr. H. G. Smith, first vice-president of Canadian Industries Limited, who revealed that profits in the C.I.L. nylon division have actually exceeded the total wage bill of the division, during the past two years.

"If every company took a whacking profit like that, then our price structure would really go up!" the Moose Jaw member commented.

Hard pressing was needed to bring out evidence from the cagey Mr. Smith, who won favor with Liberal members of the Committee by stressing that C.I.L. had made two price reductions in nylon during the past two years.

**Profit Third of Investment**  
Canadian prices were still above the American level and could be much more drastically reduced,  
(Continued on Page 8)

## DENMARK HAS THE LOWEST T.B. RATE

COPENHAGEN, (CPA)—Denmark has the lowest tuberculosis mortality in the world, according to information just released here. The figure of 30 per 100,000 in 1947 also constitutes a Danish record. After Denmark comes New Zealand, the latest available figures being 38 per 100,000 in 1945. The Danish figure for 1945 was 33.

Other European countries, owing to the disasters and privations of war, show big increases in TB mortality. In Vienna, Budapest and Rome the figures have doubled since 1939, and Paris almost so. The Amsterdam figure has jumped from 35 to 108 per 100,000. The Copenhagen figure is 44.

## Pension Rights Safeguard Is A Triumph For Knowles

OTTAWA, (CPA)—A triumph for Stanley Knowles, (C.C.F., Winnipeg North Centre) was included in the Labor Bill which finally passed third reading in the House of Commons on June 17. His hard-fought battle to safeguard the pension rights of employees who go on strike resulted in the inclusion of such a clause in the new federal bill.

The bill will affect all workers in national industries, which include transportation and commun-



ALD. E. S. VASELENAK, who was nominated to contest the Lethbridge constituency in the coming provincial election. Mr. Vaselelak is Principal of one of Lethbridge's Separate Schools and a graduate of the University of Alberta.

## ALD. VASELENAK C.C.F. CANDIDATE IN LETHBRIDGE

Alderman E. S. Vaselelak was chosen as the C.C.F. candidate in the Lethbridge constituency at a very successful nominating convention on June 19th. Others nominated were Mrs. A. M. Peters, W. W. Scott, K. J. McGregor and L. Howard. On the result of the ballot being announced the choice of Mr. Vaselelak was made unanimous. Organization plans for a vigorous and successful campaign were outlined at the meeting.

A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A., Calgary, was the guest speaker and in his address he emphasized the great opportunity for the election of the C.C.F. candidate in Lethbridge, providing that all C.C.F. people get behind their candidate and worked for his success. He said, "the seed has been sown and now the harvest of people's rights is here."

Mr. Liesemer also spoke about the fight put up by the C.C.F. members of the legislature in regard to the amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act and the ill-famed Trades Union Act, Bill 91.

The C.C.F. candidate, Steve  
(Continued on page 8)

## Mountain Park C.C.F.

Hears Harold Bronson

Mountain Park C.C.F. held a very successful meeting in Union Hall, June 12. Over 80 were in attendance to hear Harold Bronson. Mr. Bronson scored the present government for its unfair labor legislation passed at the last session. Referring to the step taken by the C.C.L. recently to make the C.C.F. the political arm of that organization, Mr. Bronson said that it was now well understood by all labor that their organizations could no longer remain neutral.

Tommy Gaetz presided and J. Melnychuk introduced the speaker.

# Religion and the C.C.F.

By Hon. T. C. DOUGLAS  
Premier of Saskatchewan

THE RECENT Italian elections have brought into clear relief the conflict between Christianity and Communism. This conflict has always been recognized by the C.C.F., which is committed to Christian principles and which has its roots in the democratic impulses of the people.

This has been the view expressed by the Catholic church on a number of occasions. In 1943, the Roman Catholic bishops extended freedom of action to Catholics to support the C.C.F.

The conference of bishops and archbishops meeting in Quebec City representing the Roman Catholic Church in Canada, condemned Communism as "degrading to the human person" and at the same time stated that "the faithful are free to support any political party upholding the basic Christian traditions of Canada and favoring needed reforms in the social and economic order which are demanded with such urgency in pontifical documents."

In an accompanying interpretive statement the Catholic Register officially acknowledged the C.C.F. as a "sincere and effective opposition to Communism," but pointed out that this did not mean endorsement of any political party by the Catholic church. The interpretive statement goes on: "Regarding the situation politically, it may be said to be a matter for congratulation that there is such a party as the C.C.F. to attract those voters who, as recent elections have shown, are dissatisfied with the older parties and who, in the absence of the C.C.F. might give their support to the Communists disguised as a Labor party."

## Doubt Created

These statements would indicate that the Roman Catholic church in Canada, while endorsing no political party, has made it abundantly clear that there is nothing in the program or policies of the C.C.F. which is contrary to the teachings of the Christian church. This will be good news to any who may still have some lingering doubt in the back of their minds. Where such doubt exists it comes from two sources: first, the natural reluctance of all religious leaders to give approval to any new movement until they are certain that it will make better rather than worse the lot of mankind. The second source of such doubt is the mistrust which has been sown by men who, though none too religious themselves, have played upon the religious



Photo by Karsh

faith of others in order to keep themselves in power.

## United Church Statement

As a matter of fact, there are three fundamental principles which we have in the C.C.F. have in common with nearly all denominations of the Christian church. The first of these is our belief that the present capitalist economy is inhuman and unchristian. This view is shared by nearly all the religious leaders of Christendom. The United Church of Canada in conference assembled has placed itself on record as follows:

"We hold the capitalist system to be un-Christian on the following grounds:

- "1. It is organized about and continually incites to action the motives which Jesus condemned;
- "2. It destroys the initiative, freedom and security of vast multitudes of people;
- "3. It falsifies the Christian scale of values, putting the money-interest above the human interest;
- "4. It is unjust and inhuman in its distribution of the burdens and benefits of our economic effort;
- "5. It continually frustrates the will of individuals to practise

and put into effect what Jesus taught."

## The Anglican Attitude

Anglican Bishops from all over the world met in conference and issued the following statement in 1930 and again in 1933:

"An outstanding and pressing duty of the church is to convince its members of the necessity of nothing less than a fundamental change in our economic life. This change can only be effected by accepting as a basis of individual relationships the principle of co-operation in service for the common good in place of unrestricted competition for profits and sectional advantage."

Since this statement was issued, the famous Malvern Conference has sounded its historic challenge to the social conscience of all Christian people. Under the dynamic leadership of the late Dr. Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, who had been a member of the British Labor Party for a quarter of a century, the Anglican Church has been in the vanguard of those demanding a more just and humane society.

## Pope's Encyclical

The Roman Catholic Church has repeatedly lifted its voice in protest against the soul-crushing ruthlessness of our competitive system. The Papal Encyclical of Pope Pius XI entitled Quadragesimo Anno, written in 1931, states:

"You assuredly know and lament the ultimate consequences of this individualistic spirit in economic affairs. Free competition is dead; economic dictatorship has taken its place. Unbridled ambition for domination has suc-

ceeded the desire for gain; the whole economic life has become hard, cruel and relentless in a ghastly measure."

"It is rightly contended that certain forms of property must be reserved from the state since they carry with them an opportunity for domination too great to be left to private individuals without injury to the community at large."

The late Cardinal Bourne, head of the Roman Catholic Church in England, clarified the attitude of the church toward Democratic Socialism in the following pronouncement:

"It should be recognized that the British Labor Party, although calling itself Socialist, does not fall within that category of Socialist schools of thought condemned by His Holiness. I do not hesitate to say that Catholics are free to support and become members of the British Socialist movement..."

In 1943 the Roman Catholic hierarchy of Saskatchewan issued this scathing denunciation of our capitalist economy:

"It is abundantly clear why the church condemns and abhors the abuses of the materialistic capitalism of our industrial age with its consequent unemployment for the masses and huge fortunes for the few. These evils are so well known that we are saved the trouble of listing them here. Suffice to say that materialistic capitalism is so un-Christian in its philosophy and evil consequences that it must give way to a reconstructed social order based on Christian principles."

Thus it will be seen that the various branches of the Christian churches are agreed in their condemnation of our competitive, capitalistic economy.

## Humanity and Economics

The second principle on which the C.C.F. and all branches of the Christian church are agreed is the need for an economic system based on the supreme worth of human personality. The founder of Christianity taught that "it were better for a man that a millstone were hung about his neck and he were cast into the sea, than that he should hurt one of these little ones." The ultimate test of any society is what it does to human beings. An economic system which condemns thousands of people—as does the present one to live in squalor, insecurity and poverty—must stand condemned in the eyes of all Christian people.

The C.C.F. plan to build a co-operative commonwealth in which the dominant motive governing production, distribution and exchange will be the supplying of human needs rather than the making of profits for a privileged few. Our slogan, "Humanity First," indicates our conviction that the main concern of our economic system must be the enhancement and the enrichment of human life.

## Christian Co-operation

We maintain that such a society should be built on a co-operative basis by working together for the common good of all rather than each striving for gain at the expense of his neighbor. We believe that society as a whole must accept responsibility for supporting those who because of ill-health, old age or misfortune cannot provide for themselves. Surely that is a sound Christian principle. St. Paul wrote to the Romans "They that are strong ought to bear the burdens of the weak." That is the difference between a Christian and a Pagan philosophy

of life. The Pagan believes that in the struggle of life "the race is to the swift and the battle to the strong." The Christian view is best described in that command "Let him that is greatest among you be your servant." In other words, power—whether physical or economic—is to be used to succor the weak, lift up the down-trodden and emancipate the oppressed. The Christian church and the C.C.F. have this much in common—not only do they both acknowledge that our present economic system is Pagan in character but they both believe that service to our fellow man and not exploitation of his misfortune is the only sound basis upon which we can build a new society.

## Spiritual Values

There is a final point upon which Christian teaching and C.C.F. policy are in complete harmony, and that is the contention that a new economic system is only a means to an end and not an end in itself. We believe that man cannot live without bread; but we are equally aware that "man cannot live by bread alone." We are desirous of building a more just and secure economy; but we are conscious of the fact that when we have improved the economic lot of mankind we have only begun the much greater task of building a new society. When the social planners and engineers have finished their work of giving us economic security and a higher standard of living, then the task of the educator, the religious teacher and the social service worker will really begin. After all, "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of things which he possesseth"; life at its best consists of spiritual values such as a regard for truth, a love of beauty and a seeking after righteousness.

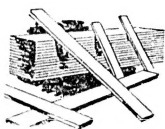
## Pagan Economy

We in the C.C.F. have stressed the need for economic change because we have seen how our pagan economy has warped and defiled human personality. We believe that a more just and humane economy will make possible greater security and increased leisure. But when that has been done there will still remain the much greater problem of teaching mankind what to do with that increased leisure and how to appreciate the culture which economic security makes possible. We maintain that man must have food, clothing and shelter, but in addition we are conscious of the fact that these are only prerequisites in the much greater task of building the Kingdom of God in the hearts and lives of men and women.

## Man—A Spiritual Being

Man after all, is more than an animal that must be fed and housed; he is a spiritual being ever reaching out after the Divine. We believe that human personality cannot flourish at its best in an atmosphere of cut-throat competition and ruthless exploitation. But at the same time we know that changing our economic status is not enough in itself; improving our economic status is only the first step in man's upward climb toward a higher destiny. The Christian church and the C.C.F. would both agree with the words of Edwin Markham, who wrote: "We are all blind until we see. That in the human plan Nothing is worth making if It does not make the man. Why build these cities glorious If man unbuilded goes? In vain we build the world, unless The builder also grows!"

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### "AVERAGE" WAGE

From time to time the Federal Government publishes figures and statistics pertaining to the incomes of Canadian wage earners. The commercial press parades these statistics before the "public" to show how well we are all off in comparison with folks in other countries. Certainly, if you are innocent enough to accept these



figures as authentic income of the wage earner appears to be sufficient for the minimum needs of keeping body and soul together.

For instance, 1947 government figures make the average weekly income of Canadian workers \$35.00 per week. However, no mention is made of the income tax, which in the case of a single person reduces this weekly income by 10%. You get the impression that the average Canadian earner takes home about \$1,800, which is a long way from the truth.

Canada is a "seasonal" country for hundreds of thousands of workers. All the building construction workers lose time for one reason or another. The same is true for seasonal workers in the woods, mills and on the ships that ply the lakes and the seas. Their weekly income cannot be multiplied 52 times for their yearly earnings. They get paid by the week or the hour, but they live by the year.

A much truer picture of the average income could be glimpsed from income tax returns. But that is not the source for government figures. The "statisticians" collect figures only from certain large concerns. They leave out the multitudes of small businesses, farm workers, domestic servants, office workers. Government figures take in only about half the working population engaged by the larger concerns where these people have steady jobs. So, they arrive at some "bright pictures": average weekly wages for Canadian workers \$35.00.

During strikes these figures are played up in the press to mislead the uninformed reader into thinking that organized labor is unreasonable in its demands. Besides, when computing the average weekly income the statisticians include all the managers and bosses, some of them with "wages" of \$10,000 per year or more.

Which reminds me of the butcher who maintained that his hamburger was 50-50—one horse, one rabbit.

If the government was interested in the truth about workers' incomes they would find a picture something like this: about 51% of Canadian wage earners get \$14 per week; 31% get \$14 - \$39 per week. Only about 12% earn \$40 to \$100 per week. This includes professional people and small business men.

Now when you remember that the dollar buys only about 50 cents worth of food and prime necessities in comparison with pre-war prices, then you can realize how shockingly low is the Canadian standard of life in relation to our national income. Then you

## The People Speak

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 300 words in length.

### CANADA'S BIG SHOTS

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: "Who Owns Canada—The Fifty Big Shots." I have just been reading this valuable book of Brother Aberhart's fame about the 100 Biggest Corporations and also the Fifty Big Shots and I am appealing to every Social Creditler also, the C.C.F.'er to get and help to distribute same till the coming elections. It sure illustrates Capitalist Democracy, more correctly named "Our Way of Living." "Billionaires and Paupers." You see that the Biggest Shot has assets of \$5,800 millions and the poorest only \$1,600 millions; all fifty own and control 131 billions and over 345 millions.

You see, brother businessman, worker and farmer that we have produced billions for the few to own. What do you own of our country—just the privilege of existing and paying taxes. We have to do without decent houses, food and clothing—where is the dividend and the just price. The Big Shots got it, also the price, and without work as they even hire the brains.

This book gives all kinds of information on our banks, iron and nickel, also the rest of the holdings of the Big Shots. On the back of the book is John Canuck representing 80% of our nation, big arms and muscles, but the brain is asleep. In past years we've been working against our families and for the interest of the few.

Fellow citizen, vote C.C.F., the only party that can vote the Big Shots out and the public in, a party that continuously progresses through its membership for a better world in which to live. Vote C.C.F. socialism. Since May 31st John Canuck got one eye open—help so he can see.

P. W. KOBITZSCH,

Hardisty.

### HE MAKES A COMPARISON

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: My wife and I just got home from a trip through eastern Alberta and western Saskatchewan.

begin to realize why growing numbers of Canadian workers are supporting the C.C.F. price control policy. It also explains why the people cannot be intimidated with the "Red Bogy." Brother—they've got wrinkles in their stomachs.

wan. And we had a very enjoyable time visiting relatives and friends, some of whom we had not seen for years.

I was deeply impressed with the swing to the C.C.F. every place we visited in Eastern Alberta. Several told me that in the last three provincial elections they had voted Social Credit, because they felt that a Social Credit government would do something for them. But as things are now they cannot support the government any longer, and they are swinging to the C.C.F.

I was quite pleased to see this as Social Credit used to be very popular in that district, also in Western Saskatchewan.

I was impressed with the feeling of the Saskatchewan people toward their government. I do not believe that all the people of Saskatchewan are supporters of the C.C.F., but it so happens that all our friends there are either members of or supporters of the C.C.F. I heard some of them talking it over, and they were all agreed that there was nothing else to vote for.

As one fellow said, "We know what the Liberals are like, and also what the Social Credit has done in Alberta. So the C.C.F. is the only party we can vote for, because they have really done something for the people, and they are keeping their promises as far as possible."

I was also impressed with the condition of the roads in Saskatchewan. We drove fifty miles per hour with perfect ease. I never saw any better travelled roads in my life. While in Alberta both No. 13 and 14 highways were rough, a lot of loose gravel and washboard surface. The best we could do was twenty-five to thirty-five miles per hour and feel safe, except in a few places where it was fairly smooth. My wife wondered why we couldn't have as good roads in Alberta as Saskatchewan. I said we could have but apparently we would have to have a change of government first.

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BY H. ZELLA SPENCER

THIS WEEK I find myself writing from Ottawa and Canada's capital city at this season of the year seems almost more beautiful than usual. Those who find themselves here at this time on a visit are indeed fortunate. The city has the beauties of nature developed to such perfection with its trees and flowers and lawns. Its buildings for its various governmental activities add to its interest. When in addition there is the warmth of greeting of old friends, it is indeed a happy combination.

Naturally there were for me many reminiscences of the past and a few pangs thinking of the old days of the Ginger Group who were so utterly routed. But there is the satisfaction of feeling they played well their part and others are continuing their work.

And I say working, for our good friend Bill Irvine and his wife asked me to lunch with them at the House on the day after my arrival. I went to find my host-guest work had turned up and he had to attend to that even if it was lunch time.

Mr. Coldwell I found absent in Saskatchewan, but it is pleasing to hear friends of different political faiths in the city speak so highly of him. Perhaps it is more pleasing to hear a man like Angus MacInnis who has such a long and varied experience in working with others and who has been so closely associated with him, pay highest tribute to him as a man and as a leader. And as for Mr. Knowles it would be hard to conceive of him not being busy when we note the part he plays. These are the only three men I have met to date and I think we all realize

we owe a debt to them all.

But it was not of Mr. Coldwell I wanted to make mention, but of his wife. Now if any of you want a good laugh and a most happy little visit, spend the time with Mrs. Coldwell and their daughter, Margaret. And please remember that Mrs. Coldwell is unable to get from her chair or use her legs, cannot use her right arm and at times suffers acute pain and this for some years. She suffers from a disease for which as yet no cure has been found—disseminated sclerosis. But how does she take it? "That," she laughs and says, "is the latest disease, and I must have the latest." A picture of MacKenzie King was on the piano opposite. "You see," said she, "I always keep my eye on MacKenzie King." She shows her her pictures on the wall at which she must look so much of her time and talks of them with greatest enthusiasm and tells how fortunate she is to have her radio and her reading. Could you take it as well? To her and their charming daughter Margaret, a trained nurse, who stays with them, I think we can pay tribute as well as to Mr. Coldwell.

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## LABOR DIRECTORY

Look Here for Information Regarding Officers, Meetings, etc., of Trade Unions and Other Labor Organizations in the Province. EDMONTON

Brewery, Flour, Cereal & Soft Drink Workers of America No. 314—Meets 3rd Wednesday in Labor Hall, President, D. O. Roberts, 9411 84th Avenue, phone 18916; Secy-Treasurer, J. Flower, 10813 75th Street, phone 71987. Delivianee delegate, J. Landay, 10764 94th Street, phone 33641.

Treasurer, J. A. S. Smith, 11822 95A Street; Business Agent, J. P. CRAZE, Labor Temple.

Carpenters & Joiners of America Local 1328, Edmonton, Alta., United Brotherhood—Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays in the Labor Temple, President, F. A. Logan, 9187 Jasper Avenue; Fin. Sec'y, L. D. Pollard, 9328 101A Ave.

Fire Fighters No. 208, International Association of—Meets in No. 2 Fire Hall, President, Tom Steele, 9444 101st St. Edmonton; Secretary-Treasurer, W. Young, 12114 Jasper Ave., Edmonton



## PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE ALBERTA C.C.F.  
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY  
At 10010 102, Street, Edmonton, Alberta

Publication Board:  
J. E. Cook, Gordon Clark, John King, Clifford E. Lee,  
W. Margolus, Mrs. Nellie Peterson.

Subscriptions: \$2.00 per year; 3 years, \$5.00  
"Authorized as second-class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa"

Vol. XXVIII, No. 44

June 26, 1948

### SASKATCHEWAN PREDICTION

THIS ISSUE of the *People's Weekly* goes to press before the results in the Saskatchewan provincial election are known. But by the time it is in the hands of its readers the story will have been told.

We don't like going out on a limb in predicting election results. But in examining the returns from each constituency in the 1944 election we feel reasonably safe in prognosticating as follows: (1.) The C.C.F. government will be returned. (2.) The prediction of Hon. Solon Low and the *Canadian Social Creditor* that "Social Credit is Sweeping Saskatchewan" will not be sustained.

### STUPID PROPOSAL

WE CAN think of nothing in the way of political stupidity that would transcend the panicky proposals of such papers as the *Financial Post* and *Saturday Night* to combat the C.C.F. There is really no difference between the two old parties, they say, and it is time now to abandon the tweedledee and tweedledum farce and get together to fight the Socialists.

In the first place the argument of the C.C.F. that there is no difference between the Liberal and Conservative parties is completely confirmed by what the organs of both parties are now saying in their frantic fear of the C.C.F. That in itself is a victory for the C.C.F.

But the stupidest phase of the amalgamation proposal is the lack of consideration of the inevitable result of the joining of the Liberal and Conservative parties. By doing so they make a C.C.F. victory eventually inevitable. The people of the nation will sooner or later, and probably sooner than later, get tired enough of a government to kick it out of office. That has not worried the economic rulers of the country in the past. They always had tweedledum when the people got tired of tweedledee.

But if they amalgamate their two parties into one to maintain a reactionary government, to whom will the people turn but the C.C.F.?

### S. C. MISREPRESENTATION

THE EXAMPLE quoted by Miss Mary Crawford in her article in this issue is typical of the calculated misrepresentation which characterizes arguments by Social Credit speakers. And it is all based on the premise set out by the former leader of the movement when he said the political appeal must be to the thirteen-year-old minds of which the population was mostly composed.

But there is plenty of evidence that the government's contempt of the minds and memories of Alberta people is rapidly becoming clearly apparent to the voters. In the example used by Miss Crawford, is there anyone in the co-operative movement who does not know that it was the C.C.F. members of the Alberta legislature who introduced the anti-taxation motion, and that it was Hon. Solon Low who amended the resolution to make it conform to the desires of the Grain Trade and its phoney Income Taxpayers' Association?

### NO "FREE" ENTERPRISE

IT IS RARELY that any publication of big business in Canada goes to press these days without an attack on the C.C.F. It is rarely that any big business executive speaks without warning against the C.C.F. danger to what he calls "free enterprise."

But the campaign isn't going over as it did in 1945. It was tried in Yale, in the Ontario provincial election and in the Vancouver and Ontario federal by-elections. It didn't jell.

The reason is obvious. These protestations of "free enterprise" don't make much sense to the voter who reads about the optical combine, for example. The fact that is being driven home to the Canadian people is that "free" enterprise is rapidly disappearing before the greedy manipulation of the monopoly capitalists.

It is probable that retail merchant Jones who won the C.C.F. seat in Yale had the support of many other business people precisely because they realize that the C.C.F. holds out the best hope of any real free enterprise.

### MAYNARD'S MOVE

HON. LUCIEN MAYNARD, Alberta Attorney General, has represented the constituency of Beaver River in the legislature for the past thirteen years. But a recent scouting operation by Mr. Maynard elicited the information that the atmosphere in the northern riding was not politically healthy for him. So he came down to St. Albert and pushed Charlie Holder aside (by a vote of 25 to 15) and took the nomination for that constituency.

Incidentally, Mr. Holder hasn't always been a very good boy. He had the temerity to talk in the legislature about the terrible roads in his constituency. Anyone who does that, his name—as well as the roads—is mud.

## THE THIRD COLUMN

A WAY OF LIFE

Premier Attley at British Labor Party Conference, May 19:

"We are seeking to build up a free Socialist society by the methods of Social Democracy."

"We have rejected all short cuts; all suggestions that by laying aside our democratic principles for a time we can more rapidly achieve a Socialist State."

"Why? Because the methods by which an end is sought profoundly affect the nature of the end attained. A society changed by undemocratic methods loses the habits of Democracy. A society changed by casting aside all moral principles loses those principles."

"We have seen that where this is done the return to Democracy is first relegated to some distant future and then is rejected altogether."

"Evil principles employed in the fight for power are not laid aside when victory is won."

"Socialism is a way of life, not just an economic theory. In the process of achieving Socialism we have all got to grow into being fit citizens of a Socialist State."

"Socialism demands a higher standard of civic virtue than Capitalism. It demands a conscience and active participation in public affairs."

★

### WHO'S ALARMED?

Newsweek, June 21:

"The *Toronto Daily Star* called them 'the ten days that shook Ottawa.' On May 31, the socialist Co-operative Commonwealth Federation candidate captured the Tory stronghold of Yale, B.C., in a federal by-election. In an Ontario provincial election on June 7, the C.C.F. increased its membership in the legislature from eight to 22 and passed the Liberals (thirteen members) to become the official opposition. The very next day, in two more federal by-elections, voters in the industrial-rural constituency of Ontario in Ontario and the urban constituency of Vancouver Centre in British Columbia elected C.C.F.s previously held by Liberals."

"Alarmed Canadians wondered if socialist governments were just around the corner. The rank and file of the Liberal and Progressive Conservative parties began to talk of the need for a capitalistic merger to meet the C.C.F. challenge."

★

### THE OLD LOOK

Montreal Standard, June 19:

"When the King ceased being Emperor of India, the mint had to take new coin dies without the 'et Ind. Imp.' in the border around the King's head. But it takes a long time to make new dies, and in the meantime continuous production of new coins was needed to meet the requirements of commerce. The mint solved the problem by producing, in 1948, coins dated 1947. They differ from those minted last year, however, in having a tiny maple leaf beside the 7."

### Weekly Sermonette

## God's Economics

By Rev. Will Irwin  
Hanna, Alberta



"My Kingdom is not of this world." THE MOST drastic act of this history-making sovereign of The Kingdom of heaven, was His renunciation of the Kingdoms of earth. He renounced their political systems, their economic set-up, their constituted authorities, their living standards, and their estimate of values.

He was Himself, the embodiment of a better Kingdom that functioned in a perfect manner for the welfare of the many. By a great dramatization in the wilderness He showed how His Kingdom would function. The sick, the infirm, the crippled, the blind, and otherwise handicapped were the objects of His first concern. "He healed them all." Interpret the passage as you will, it clearly reveals that in His Kingdom care of the underprivileged is the first function of social forces.

It did not stop there. "He called His disciples unto Him and said, 'I have compassion on the multitude because—they have nothing to eat; I will not send them away fasting lest they faint in the way.'" Under the rules of Caesar's Kingdom it would cost a fortune to feed so many. It is more practical to let them starve. We cannot spend our own good money to feed them. What we may gather by exploitation is ours under kingdom rules. We are free in a free economy to do what we like with our own. If we feed the people with it we may have stronger neighbors and a happier community, but we will have no advantage over them and what will become of Free Enterprise?

"How many loaves have ye?" Lord; that is none of your business! My loaves are mine. There is no possible connection between the number of loaves I have, or the number of dollars I have in

the bank, or the bushels of wheat I have in my bins, or the cattle upon my ranges, or my packing plants, oil wells, or mines, I possess and the fact that multitudes are hungry.

One youngster had evidently been far-seeing enough to bring a lunch. What a bonanza was his! Five loaves and a few fishes to feed five thousand. In the Kingdom of supply and demand the sky was the legitimate limit of his profits. Our ten cent loaf would soar to \$10.00 and the fish would exceed their weight in gold. In the kingdom of heaven he got more than money, he got immortality.

"Give ye them to eat," out of your resources. You have enough. Recognize the Divine principle of human solidarity. You are your brother's keeper. Apply God's economics. Place your money system under His government and become free from money fears. You will never enjoy freedom until you have freed yourself from the entanglements of a man-made economic system. There is a kingdom for you which is not of this world. "If it were not so I would have told you."

The great renunciation takes faith. The faith that comes through a conviction that we are under condemnation unless individually and collectively we are at our best. It takes courage. We have to express a desire to plunge from one world into another. It takes knowledge. We must know with understanding how mankind can live co-operatively distributing without selfish aims. It takes action. We must be prepared to seize the kingdom by the peaceful and constitutional means that democracy has placed at our disposal. To be truly Christian is to have what it takes to secure the kingdom which is not of this world.

## Ready for the Discard

By J. E. COOK  
President, Alberta C.C.F.

WHAT IS good government? What makes it good? In the heat of an election campaign the individuals in control under democracy are too often excited partisans and unable to give independent thought to this question.

Without going too far back, good government must certainly be comparable. What was good government ten years ago may be seriously behind now. It does not always follow that the newest is the best but if it is honest in design and construction it is apt to be more up to date.

There is a difference between a government and an automobile in this respect. Government could change its model if it would day by day. But if it doesn't it seems logical that there must be replacement.

The very basis of good government is ideas and ideals. Only fresh viewpoints meeting the needs of new times can satisfy progress. Ideas are the basic material. All eras are bound to believe that progress therein has been faster than in any other such period.

In Alberta its citizens have had

a sort of pride in an idea that this province has attracted and developed a very independent, forward-thinking electorate that have shown themselves ready to explore new fields in social and economic matters. This, Albertans often say, is shown in our discard of what is outworn and our willingness to chart new roads with new people at the head of new governments.

We remember 1921 and 1935. After 14 years, in which habits became stagnant repetition, the men and women responsible for government initiative lost the confidence of the electorate. Conditions were terrible. There had been loss of personal assets and personal confidence until the ordinary business of finding something to eat, clothing and shelter had become a slow motion, exhaustive process, completely devoid of pleasure, contentment or hope of continuing.

The back-breaking load of economic superstitions, fetishes and enforced axioms bound every simplest act. Don'ts and can'ts destroyed the simplest of music.

(Continued on page 8)



# C.C.F. NEWS

## NOMINATING CONVENTIONS

The Edmonton Constituency Nominating convention will be held at the I.O.O.F. Hall, 103rd street, on Tuesday, June 29th commencing at 8:15 p.m.

Edson, nominating convention at Edson, July 3rd, 7:30 p.m.

Bruce, Monday, July 5th at Holden, 2 p.m. The convention will be followed by an evening public meeting, 8:30 p.m.

Acadia-Coronation, Tuesday, July 6th at Sedalia, 2 p.m. The convention will be followed by an evening public meeting 8:30 p.m. Ernie Cook, Provincial President, will attend.

Peace River Provincial Constituency nominating convention on Thursday, July 15th at Grimshaw, 2 p.m. followed by evening public meeting. Ernie Cook, provincial president, will attend.

## CONSTITUENCY ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

Redwater, Saturday, June 26th. Radway, 10 a.m.

Pembina, Saturday, June 26th. Westlock Legion Hall, 2:30 p.m. Followed by evening public meeting. Elmer E. Roper, Provincial Leader, speaker.

Wainwright, Saturday, June 26th. Wainwright, 2:30 p.m. Ernie Cook will attend.

Bow Valley-Empress, Saturday, June 26th. Brooks.

Hand Hills, Monday, July 5th. Hanna, 2:30 p.m. Ernie Cook will attend.

Grouard, Friday, July 9th. High

## C.C.F. BOOTH AT CALGARY STAMPEDE

CALGARY—Arrangements are well under way for the C.C.F. booth at the Calgary Stampede during the week July 6 to 10. The men are busy with the building of a new framework and the women with the plans for the cooking and staffing.

C.C.F. members from out of town are cordially invited to come and meet their friends at the C.C.F. booth—and to spend their money there! This is one of the biggest sources of revenue of the year from which Calgary finances itself and makes a contribution to the Provincial Office. Finances in this election year are more important than ever.

So for a hot dog or a cold drink or a chat with your friends in the C.C.F. come along to the C.C.F. booth at the old stand—and bring your neighbor!

## C.C.F. PICNIC and DANCE AT LINDALE ON JUNE 30th

Liberton and Modeste Creek C.C.F. Clubs are holding their annual picnic and dance at Lindale Hall on Wednesday, June 30.

## WEDDING BELLS

The very best wishes of the entire Alberta C.C.F. membership are extended to Eva Chokan, our provincial office stenographer, on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. Lorne MacDonald. The ceremony will take place in Edmonton on Saturday, June 26th. May good luck and happiness travel together with this young couple.

## UNITED NATIONS NEWS

In great Britain, where price controls are still in effect, a 29 per cent increase in living costs occurred between 1939 and July 1947, compared to a 155 per cent increase between 1914 and 1920.

—United Nations News

Prairie, 7:30 p.m. Ernie Cook will attend.

Grande Prairie Constituency convention Monday, July 12th at Speke Hall, Grande Prairie, 2 p.m. followed by evening meeting at 8 p.m. Ernie Cook, provincial president, will attend.

Spirit River Constituency convention Tuesday, July 13th at Masonic Hall, Spirit River, 2 p.m. followed by evening meeting. Ernie Cook will attend.

North Star public meeting on Wednesday, July 14th at 8:30 p.m. Ernie Cook will be the speaker.

Fairview public meeting on Friday, July 16th at 8:30 p.m. Ernie Cook will be the speaker.

Peace River Federal Convention at Rycroft on Saturday, July 17th at 1:30 p.m. followed by evening public meeting. Ernie Cook will attend.

## FEDERAL CONSTITUENCY CONVENTIONS

Red Deer, Monday, June 28th. Innisfail. Convention opens 1:30 p.m. Followed by public meeting 8:30 p.m. Ernie Cook, Provincial President, and provincial constituency candidates will be speakers.

Camrose, Monday, June 28th. Daysland, 1 p.m. Elmer E. Roper will attend.

Wetaskiwin, Thursday, July 8th in the Elk's Hall, Wetaskiwin, 11 a.m. Ernie Cook, provincial president, will attend. Elmer E. Roper, provincial leader and provincial constituency candidates will speak at the evening public meeting.

## 143 CANDIDATES IN THE FIELD IN SASKATCHEWAN

REGINA, (CFA)—Nominations for 60 of Saskatchewan's 52 legislative seats have been completed, and 143 candidates have been nominated. (The two northern ridings of Athabasca and Cumberland will not vote until July 22).

The C.C.F., which held 46 of the 50 seats in the last legislature, has nominated in all constituencies; the Liberals claim to have 40 in the field and the Conservatives nine, but some of these are included in the 13 coalition candidates which both parties are backing in ten ridings (including the three two-seat cities). The Social Credit party has 36 candidates and the Labor-Progressive Party one.

A greatly increased vote is expected. In 1944 397,700 of the 426,000 who were eligible voted. Since then the lowering of the voting age from 21 to 18 has increased the voting population by about 10 per cent, there has been an increase in total population estimated at over 15,000, and all Indian ex-service personnel have become eligible to vote.

The C.C.F. got 52 per cent of the vote in 1944, the Liberals only about 35 per cent and the Conservatives only about 12. If the C.C.F. maintains or increases its percentage of the popular vote it will probably retain an overwhelming majority in the house, in spite of the attempt to defeat it by an old party "fusion" movement.

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## T.L.C. OBJECTS TO NEW LABOR BILL

Claiming that changes have been made in committee definitely detrimental to the operation of the Act, the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada has announced that it cannot recommend federal Bill 195 as "good legislation."

The attitude of the Congress in regard to a National Labor Code is clear, said President Percy R. Bengough, "we strongly desire effective laws for the adjustment of grievances between employers and employees."

In registering its objection to Bill 195, an Act to provide for the investigation, Conciliation and Settlement of Industrial Disputes, the Congress voices strong objection to the fact that no provision is made to exclude legal counsel in the settlement of disputes.

**Score Legal Arguments**  
Mr. Bengough points out that in the old Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, it was provided that "No counsel or solicitor shall be entitled to appear before the Board except with consent of the parties to the dispute, and notwithstanding such consent the Board may decline to allow counsel or solicitors to appear."

It was explained that in recent years the sessions of boards set up to adjust labor disputes were "unduly prolonged and the confusion raised by a lot of so-called legal arguments and technicalities muddled the very issues the board was formed to clarify."

It is pointed out also that under the new act, foreman, straw bosses and employees with special knowledge, provisions and skills can all be excluded from the bill now before parliament.

"When water becomes ice, what great change takes place?" asked the professor.

"Well, sir," stammered the freshman, "I think the greatest change is in the price."

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# Childish Tactics

Radio Talk by A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A.

**D** ID YOU know that Premier Manning is rapidly coming to the position where he will soon believe that the majority of Alberta citizens are communists? According to a Calgary Herald report on June 4th, Mr. Manning said C.C.F. leaders and Communists "constantly advocated and support the same things."

Now frankly I expect the Premier would know what the Communists advocate. For back in the 1938 Edmonton by-election Mr. Manning and Mr. Leslie Morris the national secretary of the Communist party of Canada appeared on the same platform. They were celebrating together their joint victory in support of the Social Credit candidate Mr. Orvis Kennedy. So Mr. Manning probably does know what the Communists are advocating as in 1938 they were advocating the same things.

But what is important is this: The Alberta people know what the C.C.F. is advocating. The C.C.F. is advocating rural electrification under public ownership. And that is also advocated by the Alberta Farmers' Union, and the United Farmers of Alberta, and Union of Municipal Districts. So according to Mr. Manning's analysis all Alberta Farmers are now advocating the same things as the Communists. Again the C.C.F. has advocated with all the vigor at its command payment of 50% of the cost of education by the Provincial treasury. And that is advocated by the Alberta School Trustees Association, by the Alberta Teachers' Association, by the Home and School Federation, by city councils and school boards and separate school boards, labor and farmer groups and Chamber of Commerce. And so, according to Mr. Manning's understanding, the C.C.F. and almost all the people of Alberta are now advocating the same things as the Communists.

## S.C. Call Each Other Names

Well you know it is awfully easy for Social Credit leaders to call people Communists. Why they even call each other names. A Douglas Social Crediter from Quebec, according to an Albertan report of last January 13, referred to Mr. Taylor, the editor of the Social Credit paper as a Red. And according to a bulletin put out

by the Douglas Social Credit Council in Edmonton the National Council of the Social Credit Association, the branch supporting Mr. Manning, described the Douglas Social Crediters as "People with Communist mentality, morality and technique and without any justification of any kind." So it appears any time you do not like something that someone does you condemn him by calling him a Communist. Do you remember when the youngsters were protesting the increase of the price of chocolate bars? Newspaper reports actually referred to this protest as Communist inspired. So you see even your children are dangerous reds if they ask for something that would cut somebody's profits!

## S.C. Is With the Big Shots

What is happening of course is that the Social Credit cabinet ever since the death of Mr. Aberhart has become the best possible servant of the interests of the Big Shots whom Mr. Aberhart used to fight. So Mr. Manning is trying to hide this from his own former supporters by calling other people names. Mr. Manning's own Social Credit convention asked two years ago for automobile insurance at cost. Instead the Alberta cabinet forced Alberta motorists to buy protection from private insurance companies at prices as high as the traffic will bear. In Saskatchewan, under a scheme which Mr. Roper and I proposed for Alberta too, the Saskatchewan motorist gets more for \$6 than in Alberta we get for \$30 to \$50. It is no wonder that Mr. Manning sees his own former supporters deserting him. They are deserting him because he deserted them first by catering to the monopolist electric power companies, the monopoly foreign oil corporations, the international financial insurance interests. It is no wonder the Social Credit cabinet becomes so panicky that the leaders begin to call names indiscriminately. And despite the fact that it won't do any good, Mr. Manning's campaign in the coming election will continue to be limited to childish and amusing name-calling because he has nothing else to offer. For no man can serve the interests of the Big Shots and the interests of the people at the same time.

## SCHWELLENBACH DIES



United States Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach, 53, died June 10 at the Walter Reed hospital after a lingering illness. He had held the job since July 1, 1945 when he succeeded Francis Perkins.

## Just a Minute!

By A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A.

Premier Manning told the last Social Credit convention that Social Credit is opposed to price controls in any form.

And he meant it. In the Federal House Solon Low and his fellow Social Credit members were more insistent even than the Tories in getting rapid decontrol. Alberta people can blame their own Alberta Federal members more than any other single group for loss of price control and for the high prices for consumer goods that we are now paying.

In the provincial house the Social Credit steam roller majority defeated a C.C.F. move to get the Alberta House to ask the Federal Government to give this protection against excessive prices.

Two sessions in a row the Social Credit cabinet turned thumbs down on Mr. Roper's proposal that no further increase in gasoline and oil prices be permitted—at least until an investigation had proven some necessity for it. And both times gasoline prices rose. In fact the more oil we find in Alberta the higher the price rises.

All round the Social Credit cabinet of Alberta is opposed to almost everything the people want.

This time Alberta is voting C.C.F.!

The advertisement on these pages are your guide to complete shopping satisfaction.

# Even a Woman.....!

By MARY R. CRAWFORD, President, Provincial Women's Committee

**P** REMIER MANNING, in the Social Credit Hour, June 3rd, tried to answer the Liesemer criticism, "Just a Minute" of May 29. He was about as effective as a paper blockade against the British Navy.

Why, even a woman could see through it, provided she remembers yesterday and the day before yesterday.

Take for example his attempt to defend the Social Credit policy on the taxation of co-operatives. He told the truth, but not the whole truth. And so he falsified the stand of the C.C.F. members.

Here are the facts on what happened in the Alberta Legislature, March 15, 1945. The two C.C.F. members presented the following resolutions:

"Whereas—and whereas—, Be it resolved that in the opinion of this Legislative Assembly savings of Co-operative Associations effected through co-operative action belong to the individual members, and as such, should not be subject to income or excess profits tax while in the hands of the co-operative, and further, that this Assembly would strongly protest any attempt to impose taxation on such savings."

That should have been good enough for all true friends of co-operatives. But no, the government brought in an amendment. It took the two Whereas's of the C.C.F., added two of its own; then it took the C.C.F. resolution verbatim from "Be it resolved—excess profits tax." The section from there to the end was amended to read as follows:

"Provided that after the first day of April, 1945, co-operative savings should be distributed to the members within 12 months of the closing of the year's operations."

Mr. Manning in his broadcast, did not mention the C.C.F. resolution. He quoted the Social Credit "amended resolution" without mentioning what it had amended. Are you simple enough to think that was just chance? He should at least have given the C.C.F. credit for English Composition. Then he said "It is interesting to note that the two C.C.F. members were the only members of the Legislature to vote against the amended resolution." Both interesting and significant.

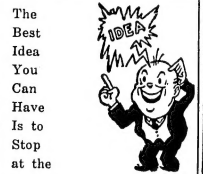
The Premier certainly gambled on a gullible audience on June 3.

Anyone familiar with the struggle of the co-operatives since 1943 knows that the Social Credit amendment is just what the Income Taxpayers Association want. They want to force the co-operatives to distribute all their savings in patronage dividends so that there will be no reserve for expansion. That is the kernel of the issue. The government gave itself away badly in this "Whereas!"

The government of Alberta has encouraged the establishment of co-operatives of all kinds... as a means of ameliorating some of the worst effects of the present discredited economy.

Precisely on this matter of the co-operatives the Alberta government and the Big Shots are two hearts that beat as one. They want just enough co-operatives to ease off some of the worst effects of the system, enough to keep farmers and other workers alive so that they will keep on working. Otherwise the economy would stop dead.

But they don't want co-operatives to grow strong enough to challenge monopoly capitalism. But the C.C.F. does want that. That is the difference. The C.C.F. wants the co-operatives to expand as a basis for a Commonwealth in which the people, all the people, will not just keep alive, but will live more abundantly.



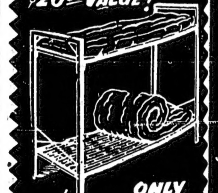
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## A BIT OF Nonsense

Theo. Hooker, the famous practical joker, held with the contention that people don't pay much attention to what others say on many occasions.

On a bet he greeted his hostess at a party by saying, "I'm sorry to be late, but it took me longer to strangle my uncle than I expected."

"Yes, indeed," replied the lady, "so nice of you to have come."

His friends gasped and paid up.

"Fine piece of land out here!" said the dusty, shrewd-looking man as he descended from his wagon outside the farmer's house.

"You're right there," replied the farmer, eagerly. "It's the best to be found in the country."

"Bit too high a figure for a poor man, I reckon?" asked the stranger.

"It's worth every penny of \$300 an acre," answered the farmer, with an eye to business. "Were you thinking of buying and settling in these parts?"

"Hardly," murmured the traveler, making some notes in a book. "I'm the new tax assessor."

## NEW — BUT OLD



Recently unveiled in New York, the new Ford is a far cry from the Tin Lizzie that made old Henry one of the world's richest men. The new design isn't the only change; there have been sharp price increases, too. Still unchanged, however, is Ford management's determination not to raise wages of United Auto Workers (CIO) members.

# Mountain Music

By Clifford E. Lee

"First it rained and then it blew;  
Then it friz and then it snow;  
Then it fogged and then it thaw,  
And very shortly after then  
It blew and snow and then again."

THAT CLEVER rhyme is attributed to Edward Whympy, famous English mountaineer who explored the Lake Louise territory at the turn of the century. It aptly describes the weather high up here in the Rockies at this season.

The Indians have a legend of Ah-ka-noosta, mightiest of hunters. He had passed many winters but did not grow old. He disappeared all summer and returned each fall with new vigor. He said he had just gone into the mountains, but he was not believed. His tribesmen were sure he had discovered a magic lake whose waters contained the Elixir of Life.

We are trying Ah-ka-noosta's formula. And certainly there is something in the pine-scented, rarified air which stimulates the physical being. And something in the grandeur of rugged peaks and lush valleys which heightens our respect for nature, which, after all, is God. Farmers live closer to this. But city people need it in regular doses to restore their sense of values.

When the weather is perfect, as it has been now for two days, one is lost in the marvel of it all. But when it rains one comes back to the contemplation of the human organization he has been in contact with. Customs officials. Park authorities. And, more than anything else, the roads he came over to get here.

### Our "Good" Roads

Elmer Roper said: The Crows Nest Pass road was the worst he had ever seen. The trail through the pass itself is now closed. But we covered the part of the road from Macleod to Pincher Creek. The People's Weekly will not print the mildest language I can use to describe it. And the road

from Pincher to Waterton Lakes is little better. This is one of the main arteries over which American tourists come into our province. And even at this early season they are coming by the thousands, attracted by our government's highly attractive advertising, which unfortunately gives no hint of the road conditions to expect. I heard Americans swear they would ship their cars home before they would put them over those roads again.

Roads in the parks, a federal responsibility, are good. I have considerable sympathy for the suggestion that all major highways should be out of the bungling hands of incompetents at Edmonton who substitute propaganda for roads and for so long get away with it.

Waterton Lakes in Canada and Glacier National Park in the U.S. together form an International Peace Park, a fitting memorial to their long peaceful association. But the customs offices stand forbidding at the boundary, somehow out of keeping with the general atmosphere.

### Ignorant of Canada

Americans are a friendly people, as everyone knows. But they know more about Europe than they do about Canada. And they are not highly informed about Europe. I had always thought the section about Canada in Time Magazine a good idea. It has a tremendous circulation and it seemed, as a consequence, that several million U.S. Time readers would know a bit about what goes on here. But I fought Time across the line and found that the home edition does not carry the Canadian section.

My understanding is that Canadian and U.S. currencies are at par. But every time I presented a Canadian bill it was discounted 10%. Surely this petty racketeering, probably born more of ignorance than avarice, could be easily corrected by representations from Ottawa.

We have not seen a daily paper for ten days and it does not seem to matter. This probably indicates how thin is the veneer of civilization on some of us and how easily we revert to the savage.

# Do You Wear Glasses?

By Lorne Ingle

HAVE YOU ever seen, as I have, the pathetic people at the spectacles counter in the 5, 10 and 15 cent Stores, picking over the cheap glasses to get a pair which will not hurt their eyes too much? This practice got so bad in the province of Quebec that in 1940 they passed a law prohibiting the self-selection of spectacles.

Hundreds of Canadians live in a permanent world of dusk, unable to afford proper optical treatment, with the hope that sooner or later they may be sufficiently blind to qualify for a blind pension.

Do you think I am exaggerating the story? Here it is in the government's own words (from the Health Reference Book, 1946, page 35):

"Over 2,000 persons have applied for pensions, (1946) and met provincial requirements regarding age, residence and lack of means, but were not sufficiently blind to qualify. In the absence of treatment, most of them may be expected to reach this stage within the next few years."

When Mr. McGregor, the Combines Investigation Commissioner, published his report on the combine in the Optical Goods Industry recently we learned a few of the reasons why glasses cost so much.

### 90% Monopoly

According to the report, in 1946 "Consolidated Optical Company of Toronto accounted for over 90 per cent of the domestic production of spectacle frames and mountings and, together with Imperial Optical Company of Toronto, about 90 per cent of the basic lens output." These companies played a leading part in the formation of a combine to fix prices and control the trade.

A system based on patent control of a few basic designs was introduced in 1939. The Numont Ful-Vue Corporation was formed to hold the Canadian patents and supervise their use. Under the plan every wholesaler and retailer in Canada had to obtain a license from the Numont Ful-Vue Corporation before they could

handle the products at all. Sales had to be made "only at the prices and discounts and under the terms, sales plans and sales regulations" fixed by the Corporation.

### Pressure Does It

Did no one object to this regimentation? One or two did. For example, the second largest optician in Montreal refused to accept a retail license and when he found it difficult to obtain supplies of frames, and mountings he sued to have the basic Ful-Vue patent declared invalid. He was bought off on October 23rd, 1940, by the Ful-Vue people with cash payments totalling \$6,600 and thereupon dropped his lawsuit. By the end of 1941 all these "little difficulties" were straightened out and the plan was in full operation.

What happened to prices? When the Canadian licensing program first began, a Mr. Currie of

Numont Ful-Vue wrote their parent company in the United States enclosing an advertisement of one of the companies still not licensed which illustrated a Ful-Vue type of frame. "The particular advertisement attached to Currie's letter," says the report, "showed rimless glasses of the Ful-Vue type complete with lenses at a retail price of \$3.45. The lowest price permitted under the Numont Ful-Vue plan for Ful-Vue rimless glasses including lenses was \$12.00."

### Rakeoff

You may have thought when you paid your doctor \$5 or \$10 for your eye examination that that was all he got out of you. Perhaps it was. But through a system of rebates hundreds of doctors in Canada have been getting an extra cut from the wholesale or retail optician who filled the prescription. "In some

(Continued on page 8)

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CFCN Calgary Monday; 6:25 p.m.  
CJCF Calgary Thursday; 6:55 p.m.  
CJOC Lethbridge Saturday; 9:30 p.m.

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## PERSONAL STUFF C.C.F. Gains

(Continued from Page 1)

Sots of nicer subjects (the Valley of the Saskatchewan is very lovely from this window!) Furthermore, I hate to have to admit to our opponents that we are not prepared to meet them on anything like even terms when it comes to telling our story to the people. Not that we expect to have as much money to spend. There will be ten dollars apiece by the Liberals and Social Credit parties for every one we will spend, or want to spend. We expect them to have an advantage in that respect. But what I've been talking about is the minimum amount we will require to conduct a campaign, an irreducible minimum necessary to be in the fight. That's all I'm pleading for. There! it's out. I'm pleading.

\* \* \*

But this is urgent. We haven't any time. And so I am pleading to you to do in the next week the thing you have fully intended doing all year. Look! If we are going to raise that \$15,000—it should be more—about fifteen hundred of us will have to send in an average of ten dollars to the provincial office of the C.C.F. in the next few days. And to make the average ten dollars some of us will have to do better than that. There'll have to be some hundreds, and some fifties, and a lot of twenty-fives. Well, I was talking to a fellow the other day who had been in the hospital for three months, and he may have to go back again. He'd be tickled to death to get out of it for one hundred dollars! If he had lived in Saskatchewan his hospitalization would have cost him five dollars. He'd have saved a lot of money, and a mighty lot of worry. So if we put it on the very lowest basis, how much we as individuals or families will gain from the election of a C.C.F. government, we can afford to make a pretty substantial investment in the campaign fund. But I don't expect that kind of an appeal to carry much weight with readers of this column. I know that that of you have put more into this thing than you can ever get out of it. You've done it because your heart was in it. It is part of your life.

\* \* \*

But, I must say it again—it is getting late. If the election date is announced on July 3rd, will we be able to proceed with the plans made for the conduct of the election? That's the point. Because if the money isn't in the provincial office when the election is announced, we'll have to govern ourselves accordingly and enter the fight with one hand tied behind our back. Do you want it to be that way? The mail during the next week will give us the answer. (Golly! how I've hated to write this way! But you understand, don't you?)

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(Continued from Page 1)

tario Liberals are going to find it rather hard to get the party nominations next time. According to these observers, King might use the soft answer to turn away wrath, but he will never brook this kind of rebellion in the ranks and will certainly not forgive the frank interview with newspapermen afterwards.

**Abbott in Wrong**  
Centre of the wrath of the munitiers appears to be Douglas Abbott, minister of finance, who has been adamant in his refusal to consider any measures to relieve the high price burden. He insists that the great gods Supply and Demand must have their way, and the present situation is perfectly normal.

The fact that the Ontario Liberal group went to King instead of Abbott is significant. Along with several other "bright young men" in the top Liberal circle Abbott has designs on the party leadership some fine day. But his chances are wearing thin as more and more Liberals blame their election defeats on his financial policy.

An open split in the party before the next general election is not expected, however. Neither do most observers think that the munitiers will get many concessions out of the Cabinet, who are solidly set on their present course. The convention in August may be rather lively, though.

## Denmark Proposes

(Continued from Page 1)

a Scandinavian Union," as Prime Minister Tage Erlander has put it.

Now, however, feels that alliance with Sweden alone would be insufficient protection, especially since Sweden, like Norway, is dependent on other countries for military supplies. Both countries are inclined to regard Denmark, open, flat and with no defense forces, as being more of an obligation than a possible useful partner.

That is the present stage of the debate, and in the discussions that are now going on behind the scenes, it is believed that Denmark is playing the role of mediator.

## Ready for the

(Continued from Page 4)

bar or mental responses. War broke the hypnotic control. Under the stimulus of a threatened invasion people rallied. Wheels in factories began to turn, because the owner opened the factory door and let willing labor in. Great rotting foodstocks moved to feed

hungry people. It was a new world.

The war ended. The same old economic ideals limiting individuality and effort on the part of the individuals of the whole community returned. Those old habits are slowing down the wheels again, in spite of a great momentum. In spite of a new generation who scorn the ineptitude and docility of their fathers and mothers, the brakes are dragging.

There isn't enough money for decent Old Age Pensions. There isn't enough money for flying and wheel ambulances to get sick and injured quickly to hospital. There isn't enough money to provide sufficient hospitals and beds and equipment for all the sick and injured. There isn't enough money to give Alberta children the best in education. There isn't enough money to get rid of pests, and dusty roads. There isn't enough money to provide playgrounds, swimming pools, and community centres for ourselves.

There is planned scarcity of essentials of modern times. There is a forgetfulness of the depths to which we sank in the last so-called cycle of economic lunacy. This is occurring in this province, and is being tolerated and abetted by the government that started so vigorously with promises of new and adequate aid. The government that has changed from an active agency for change to a solid bulwark for continuation of the status quo. A government whose life was threatened in 1940, made dishonest, unholly alliances in 1944. In 1948 it is stagnant, dangerous, and out of date. It is time for a change.

## Shortage Is

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Thatcher argued. From Mr. Smith's evidence he pointed out that in 1946 the gross profit of the nylon division was 33% of the investment, and in 1947 it was 31%.

**Complete Monopoly**

Mr. Thatcher stuck tenaciously to the point in eliciting from Mr. Smith the admission that C.I.L. enjoys a complete nylon monopoly in Canada, and has a cartel agreement with du Pont in the United States and with British Chemicals in the United Kingdom to limit itself to the Canadian market. At first Mr. Smith denied that these companies had "any influence whatever" on the selling of C.I.L. nylon; later he said "Yes, sir. The tri-party agreement as it exists does apply to nylon."

When Mr. Thatcher questioned, "Does this not mean that you are completely free from competition in Canada?" Mr. Smith evaded, "We are in competition with silk and other materials."

Canadian Celanese Limited came under fire on June 17 when Mr. Thatcher brought out the information that the company had made a 15.5% net profit in 1947, which had jumped to 24% in the first few months of 1948, and on top of this the company had announced a price increase on April 1.

## Do You Wear

(Continued from Page 7)

cases the doctor may receive only a flat sum of say \$5 per patient. More commonly he receives that part of the retail price left after the wholesale prescription price of the glasses and a "fitting fee" of \$1, \$2, or \$3 are deducted.

These credulous individuals who believe that we are operating under a system of "free" enterprise should read this report of the regimentation and control of big business. "American Optical Company, the exclusive manufacturing licensee under the Numont and Ful-Vue patents, issued in great profusion, schedules binding the listed sub-licensees to observe uniform minimum prices, terms, discounts and detailed sales plans. Separate series of printed schedules were issued for each product and for each general market. . . . These regulations included rules respecting invoicing, packaging, labelling, advertising, trade names, markings to show gold content, and a multitude of other similar provisions."

One wholesaler in his evidence before the Commission told how he was forced to sign up. These were his words: "Finally, with a smile they said to us 'What will happen if you do not get any goods because you have no license.' If you do not get the stuff, you would have to close up the doors and liquidate."

**"Police State?"**

This system of controls and regimentation required a policing department. This function was performed by the Numont Ful-Vue Corporation which did nothing else but issue regulations, maintain detailed records on each licensee, investigate violations, examine books, etc. It neither made nor sold any spectacles or parts.

Just how ruthless this policing system was is indicated in part of a letter written by Consolidated's manager to his Vancouver Office about an "unco-operative" retailer there: "Now if that is the case, he will have a fight on his hands with the Numont Corporation. Believe me if they fight him, there will be nothing much left of his optical business because the first thing they will do, will be to cancel his license, which they may do without cause, according to the terms of it."

Two of the controller's patents were declared "wholly invalid and void" on November 6th, 1947, in a court action taken by the Attorney-General of Canada.

Hearings on the investigation into the combine began in February 1947. On February 5th, Numont Ful-Vue announced that its licenses were cancelled and would no longer be required. After the completion of the investigation Consolidated stated that it was discontinuing rebating at all branches.

Mail your order to the advertiser and remember to tell him you saw his ad in the People's Weekly.

## Radio Receipts

(Continued from Page 1)

Ted Rintoul, \$1.00; Frank Pickles, \$1.00; A. A. McEvoy, \$5.00; J. E. Hunter, \$5.00; Jim McKrizey, \$1.00; W. Hloski, \$1.00; Joe Lacroix, \$5.00; Don Dickinson, \$1.00; Mr. C. H. Johnson, \$2.00; Fritz Adamson, \$1.00; Eric Modin, \$1.00; Commonwealth C.C.F. Club, \$18.00; Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Learned, \$4.00; A. B., \$5.00; S. P., \$2.00; H. D. Ainslie, \$5.00; Anne Campbell, \$1.00; C. Wolferstan, \$5.00; A. B. C. D., \$1.00; Rocky Mountain House C.C.F., \$25.00; Bert Rear, \$2.00; T. A. Reynar, \$2.00; Mr. R. H. Hume, \$2.00; T. Weekes, \$2.00; Alf Johnson, \$1.00; A. H. Davies, \$1.00; Roy Peterson, \$1.00; L. Walker, \$1.00; N. Arnold, \$2.00; Mr. and Mrs. Don Anderson, \$1.00; Peter McDougal, \$1.00; Forshee C.C.F. Club, \$15.00; Anon. \$1.00; W. C. Zipse, \$2.00; Joe Bateman, \$5.00; John McGladrie, \$2.00; H. H. Turner, \$5.00; P. Gomawka, \$5.00; W. Micyk, \$5.00; Silvio Tona, \$1.00; W. Gates, \$3.00; Joe Dragosh, \$2.00; Alex Oshchypok, \$1.00; Pete Dika, \$2.00; F. Eisler, \$1.00; T. Watson, \$1.00; C. Jacoby, \$1.00; R. McLaren, \$1.00; J. McLaren, \$2.00; Fred Cheple, \$1.00; W. R. Ball, \$1.00; Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Simpson, \$5.00; Star Local RR2, Wetaskiwin, \$5.00; C. F. Hall, \$2.00; L. Hyndman, \$10.00; Wm. A. Baker, \$3.00; John H. Baker, \$3.00; E. J. Koehli, \$1.00; J. E. S., \$2.00; Ernie Sparrow, \$4.37.

## Ald. Vaselenak

(Continued from Page 1)

Vaselenak, in his capacity as Alderman, has, since his election more than a year ago, fought strenuously on City Council for the betterment of all underprivileged groups in the city. He is a native of Lethbridge and for the past 20 years has been principal of St. Basil's School. He is a graduate of the University of Alberta (1937), getting his degree while teaching, by seven sessions at Summer School. He is married and has 3 children, two girls and a boy.

It has been said "go to a busy man if you want something done." Steve Vaselenak is that man. Lethbridge C.C.F.'ers are proud of their candidate and intend to elect him.

In the afternoon prior to the nominating convention Lethbridge Federal Constituency held its annual convention and at this meeting progress was made towards the co-ordination of C.C.F. activity throughout the area. Mrs. A. M. Peters was re-elected as provincial board member. A.M.P.

The incorrigible humorist, Bill Nye, once related with relish a story of a trap his brother fell into when, staunch Republican that he was, he innocently undertook to deliver a political address in the almost solidly Democratic town of Erin Prairie, Wisconsin.

Practically the only Republicans in the community was the chairman of the meeting.

But, since, as Bill Nye put it, "there was nothing" going on in Erin Prairie to amuse the voters save morning, noon and night, quite a crowd turned out.

Unfortunately, they did not listen to Bill's brother at all, but booed and hissed him throughout the discourse.

There was one kind-hearted gentleman in the audience, however—an old Irishman whose duty it was to clean up the hall.

"Niver mind, Mr. Nye," he volunteered. "This here bunch wasn't ripe for Erin Prairie. They was nothin' but the rag and bob tail of the town. For man who had a d—bit of sense stayed to home."



"Next time  
I'm in Edmonton  
I'll stay at the ROYAL GEORGE HOTEL!"